

Remarks/Arguments

The claims have been amended to remove the language objected to under 35 USC § 112.

The claims have also been amended to clarify that the claimed form is designed so that concrete can be poured into the form over the spacers and around the conduits. Independent Claim 30 further requires that the form is constructed from a single sheet of thermoplastic polymer that has a horizontal floor extending upwardly to form the conduits and spacers, which are integrally formed by vacuum forming the sheet.

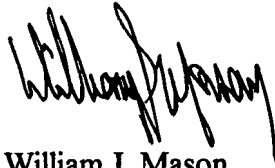
Neither of the cited prior art references teach or suggest the structure defined by applicant. The cited Coleman patent describes a block having a hollow interior and a top. The block can be filled with insulation material, but only by pouring the insulation material into the interior of the conduits where the insulation material then exits the conduits into the block interior through openings in the conduit walls. Concrete or other material cannot be poured onto the spacers and around the conduits in the Coleman structure.

Contrary to the present invention, the Hargett patent describes a plurality of lateral conduits that discharge water to the sides of the concrete pad. Thus, unlike the claimed invention where the conduits have lengths substantially equal to the length of the pad so that water drains through the conduits to escape beneath the pad, the Hargett "vertical conduits" extend only from the upper surface of the pavement to join the lateral conduits that are within the body of the pad. As a result, the water in Hargett does not escape beneath the pad, but is directed through the lateral conduits to storm drains outside the pavement structure.

While it appears that concrete can be poured onto the spacers and around the conduits in the Hargett structure, the Hargett and Coleman structures are designed for different purposes and there is no teaching or suggestion that would lead one skilled in the art to attempt to modify either based on the teachings of the others. In particular, by any combination, a form in which concrete could be poured over spacers and conduits while enabling water to flow through the conduits to beneath the form would not result.

Accordingly, for the forgoing reasons, and in view of the amendments to the claims, it is believed that this application now defines a patentably distinguishable invention and is in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William J. Mason', written in a cursive style.

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